Disposal Inspection Certification Program

Norm Farris
Regulatory Division
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
New England District

Introduction

- Disposal at sea needs a NAE-certified inspector
- Inspector is the Corps' eyes and ears
- Certification program central to inspector program
- NAE provides list of inspectors to dredging contractors
- Guidance manual for inspector certification

Agenda for Session

- Program Goals
- Inspector Duties
- Permittee Duties
- Inspector Obligations
- Limits of Inspector's Role
- Common Problems
- Disposal Point Coordinates/Buoys
- Program Contacts

Program Goals

- Monitor open water disposal of dredged material
- Ensure proper placement of dredged materials
- Support DAMOS program (NAE disposal site monitoring)
- Ensure public confidence in the NAE control of ocean disposal

Requirements for position

- Maritime Certifications
- Experience with dredging, towing barging (optional)
- Familiarity with navigation instrumentation
- Seamanship
- **No prior employment** by permittee, dredger, towing contractor

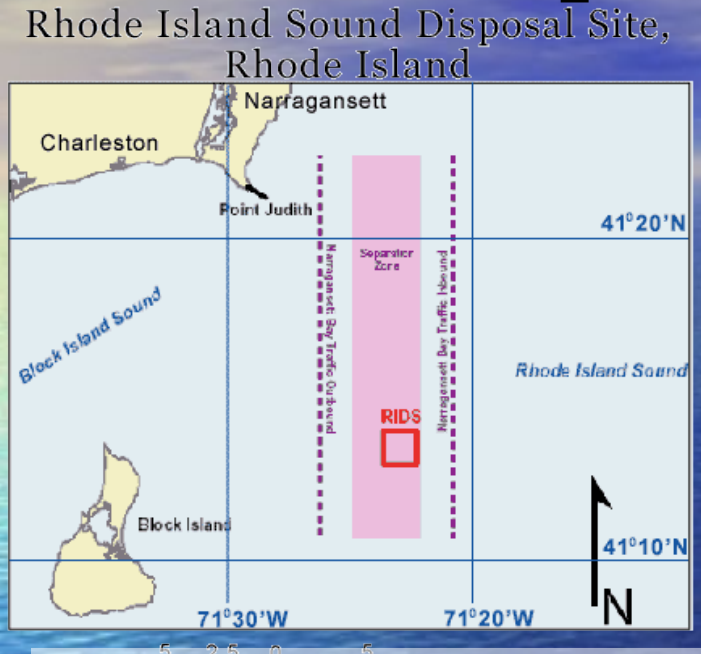
Inspector Duties – 1.

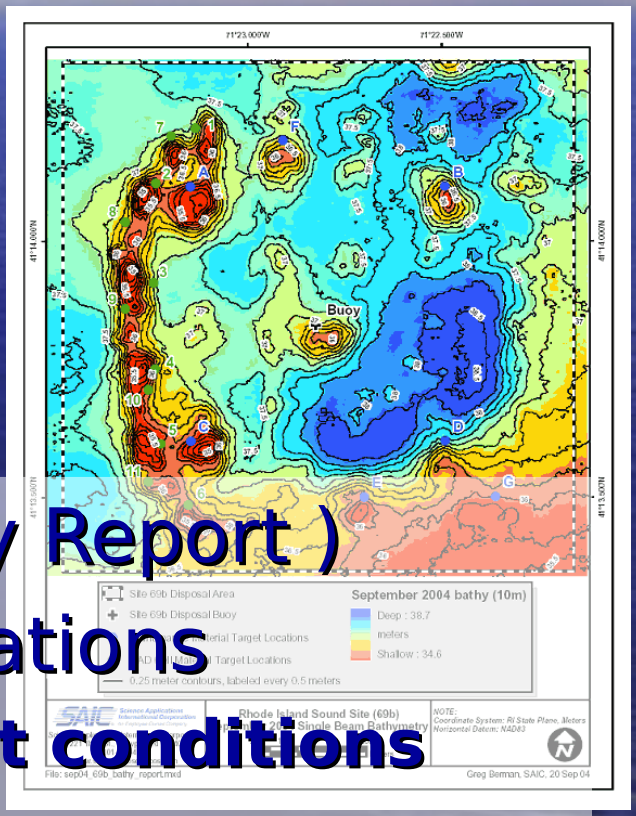
- Basic understanding of Corps Regulatory Programs (esp. permitting, enforcement)
- Detailed knowledge of the dredging and disposal
- Report unauthorized activities – DON'T stop action, inform
- BEFORE SETTING SAIL – REMEMBER…

Before Setting Sail – Ensure possession of:

1. Copy of permit (esp. dredge/disposal plans, all conditions)
2. Initiation/Continuation Letter
3. Notice To Proceed Letter
4. Summary Information Sheet
5. Precise knowledge of disposal site

Before Setting Sail –Ensure possession of:





6. Scow log (Inspector's Daily Report)
7. For Capping disposal operations
   a) **Capping-specific permit conditions**
   b) **Ancillary survey work**

Inspector Duties – 2.
AFTER RETURN

- Monthly report
- Maintain Scow Log
  1. Inspector's Daily Report for each disposal trip
  2. Original to permittee's representative

Permittee Obligations

- Representative must send original scow logs within a week
- Fill out completion report, send to Corps

Inspector Obligations

- Report unauthorized dredge-related activities
- Be present on trip from the dredge area to disposal site
- Record all unusual trip events (ex. Short dumps)
- Report disposal location

Limits of Inspector Role

- NOT – dredge inspectors
- NOT – responsible for disposal
- NOT- responsible for compliance
- NOT – marine mammal observers (unless NMFS certified)
- Captain in charge of vessel and crew; has final say

Common Problems

- Bad weather
- Ship Breakdown
- Misinformation
- Sea sickness/incapacitation

Disposal point coordinates

- Captain must know location
- Discharge only when on station
- Disposal should occur at full stop
- Exceptions
  1. No buoy
  2. Capping
  3. Weather/sea state

Buoy out of position?

- Check navigation system
- Position at buoy
- Mark buoy coordinates
- If < 500 ft – discharge
- If > 500 ft, go to buoy coord. and discharge
- ALWAYS discharge within disposal site

Last words

- Navigation broken? – DON’T GO!
- Report missing buoys or any other related problems

Contacts

Phone numbers (978-318-8xxx)

- Marie Farese x292
- Norm Farris x336
- Tom Fredette x291
- Ruth Ladd x818

Checklists

- Prior to departure
- Bring on Trip
- Actions at Disposal Site BEFORE discharge

Where to Get More Information

- Other training sessions
- Books, articles, electronic sources
- Consulting services, other sources

Good Luck!